SI. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Rural families	%age of families below poverty line
18.	Orissa*$$	6790202	65.47
19.	Punjab	2330725	27.90
20.	Rajasthan	6768541	30.99
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	9388118	29.16
23.	Tripura	595397	66.81
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20430204	36.91
25.	West Bengal	11076686	44.40
26,	A&N Islands	30221	21.25
27.	D&N Haveli	26237	65.67
28.	Daman & Diu	10735	3.68
29.	Lakshdweep	8625	10.26
30.	Pondicherry	133555	47.37
	ALL INDIA	135360074	41.05

Source: Ministry of Rural Development
NR-Not Reported
*Provisional
$$-Rural Household

Wheat and rice to BPL families

1305. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been providing wheat and rice free of cost or at subsidized cost to the States for distribution among people living Below Poverty Line (BPL);

(b) if so, the State-wise details of BPL population in 2001 -02,2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 alongwith the details of volumes of wheat and rice provided to the respective States during these periods, indicating the volume provided free of cost and those at subsidized cost; and

(c) the details of per quintal rates of wheat and rice issued to the States during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The foodgrains are allocated for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families under Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) at subsidized rates. Special allocation of foodgrains has been made free of cost only in rare cases involving natural calamities of severe magnitude.

(b) Statements indicating State-wise details of BPL population for the years 2001-2002 to 2004-05 is given in the Annexure [see Appendix 205, Annexure No. 5]. The statement showing State-wise Allocation of rice and wheat for Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna. Yojana (AAY) and Above Poverty Line (APL) under Targetted Public Distribution System(TPDS) for the years 2001-2002, to 2004-05 are at Annexure [see Appendix 205, Annexure No. 5]. A statement giving details of foodgrains provided free of cost or at subsidized cost in addition to the allocation under TPDS during the aforesaid years is in Annexure [see Appendix 205, Annexure No. 5].

(c) The details of per quintal rates of foodgrains issued to the States during the period 2001-02 to 2004-05 under TPDS are given in the Annexure [see Appendix 205, Annexure No. 5].

Import and export of wheat

1306. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to import wheat, if so, the details thereof including the rates at which it is proposed to be imported;

(b) whether Government exported wheat a couple of months back, if so, the details thereof including the rates at which it was exported;

(c) the justification for the proposed import and the exports made; and

(d) whether Government have examined the possibility of the vested interests in the two deals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) There is no proposal to import wheat.